



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development

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Dear Pharmacists,

As a result of the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) recent actions against two prescribers and the subsequent surrendering of their Alaska professional healthcare licenses, pharmacists have been seeking guidance as to what prescriptions, if any, can be dispensed.

To expound upon our existing Frequently Asked Questions page, which addresses the validity of prescriptions following an adverse action against a prescriber's license or if the prescriber has since become deceased, we are issuing the following guidance:

- Prescriptions should still be assessed by the pharmacist to determine whether the prescription was written within the ordinary course of professional practice and for a legitimate medical reason.
- Due to the DEA registration numbers (BD1834818, previously belonging to Lavern Davidhizar and MS0819194, previously belonging to Jessica Spayd) no longer being valid, federally scheduled controlled substances issued by these providers **cannot** be dispensed.
- Non-scheduled legend drugs should continue to be dispensed.
- Remain cognizant of non-controlled substances that may have a potential for abuse when combined with other medications or illicit drugs, such as muscle relaxants.

We acknowledge the ongoing opioid crisis Alaskans are faced with and understand there is no simple answer to the nuances of the health and safety repercussions for each patient. As we continue engaging in multi-agency efforts to address and navigate the impacts of the recent prescriber indictments, please be assured there are additional resources available:

Opioid Enforcement Health Response –
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Director/Documents/opioids/factsheet.pdf>

Patient Information/FAQ –
http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Director/Documents/opioids/Patient-Information-FAQ_10.15.19.pdf

Information for Health Care Providers, Prescribers, and Pharmacists –
<http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Director/Documents/opioids/factsheet.pdf>

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Resources –
<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/PrescriptionDrugMonitoringProgram/PrescribingResources.aspx>

Thank you for your continued professionalism and the support you provide to our patients. If you have additional questions, please email laura.carrillo@alaska.gov with the Opioid Health Action Response (OHAR) team and Executive Administrator for the Board of Pharmacy.

Professionally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard Holt".

Richard Holt, BS Pharm, PharmD, MBA
Chair, Alaska Board of Pharmacy